

extended tracks—coupled with the stage routes—were vital to the county's establishment.

Today, the county is home to those looking to tame their own bit of the Wild West. Thanks to its temperate climate, agriculture is Goshen's primary industry. A highly developed irrigation system borrows waters from the North Platte River, the Hawk Springs reservoir and the Pathfinder Dam, which allows profitable crops of sugar beets, beans and wheat to prosper in the North Platte Valley. Small-acreage farms and sustainable growing practices bring the farming tradition into the 21st century. The county is consistently the leading beef producer in the state as over 200,000 head of cattle are raised each year. In addition, Goshen County is working to answer America's growing energy demands. Its proximity to the Niobrara Shale Formation provides the county with opportunities for future oil and natural gas production.

In honor of the 100th anniversary of Goshen County, I urge my colleagues to see this "Valley of Abundance" in person. I congratulate the citizens who have worked so hard to preserve the county's heritage. They should be proud to celebrate this landmark achievement.

CUBA

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I condemn in the strongest possible terms the Cuban regime's unjust incarceration of Alan Gross. As the editorial highlights and as the Castro regime well knows, Mr. Gross is simply a humanitarian who was seeking to help the Jewish community in Cuba access the Internet. Only the most oppressive, totalitarian regime would seek to jail someone for trying to expand access to uncensored information.

As this editorial notes, "The regime in Havana is so brittle and creaky that it blanches at the idea of its subjects communicating too freely with the outside world, lest they undermine a communist system whose attempts at economic development have delivered scanty results."

I also take this opportunity to once again call on the Obama administration to halt its new Cuba policies that liberalize travel and expand allowable remittances to Cuba. This unilateral gift to the Castro brothers by the Obama administration is totally unwarranted, especially in light of Mr. Gross' case as well as the ongoing repression of the Cuban people.

I ask unanimous consent that a July 29, 2011, editorial by the Washington Post entitled "Cuba Should Free Alan Gross" be printed in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, July 29, 2011]

CUBA SHOULD FREE ALAN GROSS

Alan P. Gross, the U.S. Agency for International Development subcontractor who committed what Cuba considers the unconscionable offense of making the Internet available to members of its minuscule Jewish community, has almost exhausted pos-

sible judicial appeals of his 15-year prison sentence.

Mr. Gross, 62, a resident of Potomac, was arrested in December 2009 as he prepared to fly home from Havana. Convicted on trumped-up charges in March this year, he appeared a few days ago before Cuba's highest tribunal to appeal his conviction and plead for release. The outcome of his appeal, expected in the coming days, is certain to be dictated one way or another by Cuban leader Raul Castro—and will be a sign of whether Cuba is remotely interested in better relations with Washington.

Cuba, besides its repressive ally Venezuela, is virtually the only place in the Western Hemisphere where distributing laptop computers and satellite phone equipment intended to connect people to the Internet—Mr. Gross's supposed "crime"—could be construed as subversive. The regime in Havana is so brittle and creaky that it blanches at the idea of its subjects communicating too freely with the outside world, lest they undermine a communist system whose attempts at economic development have delivered scanty results.

There are plenty of humanitarian reasons to release Mr. Gross, who has been confined for 19 months. Somewhat overweight when he was arrested, Mr. Gross has lost 100 pounds, according to his wife and other American visitors who have been allowed to meet with him; he also suffers from gout, ulcers and arthritis. His daughter is struggling with cancer, and his mother is reported to be in poor health.

Cuban authorities have portrayed Mr. Gross as a spy involved in an enterprise aimed at undermining the regime. That seems unlikely in the extreme. In fact, Mr. Gross, a veteran development worker who had minimal command of Spanish, was part of a democratization project of the sort the U.S. government runs in countries all over the world.

At the time of his arrest, Mr. Gross was working for Development Alternatives Inc., a Bethesda firm that had won a \$6 million government contract to promote democracy in Cuba. His work consisted mainly of providing computers and satellite phones to Cuban Jews, a community thought to number about 1,500, so they could access the Internet, whose use is restricted in Cuba, and contact Jewish communities beyond Cuba's shores. Not exactly a cloak-and-dagger project likely to bring the Castro brothers to their knees.

The Obama administration has made it clear that any improvement in relations with Cuba is on hold pending Mr. Gross's release. That's a fitting response to the communist regime's knee-jerk behavior in persecuting an American whose "crime," if any, may have been an excess of naiveté.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING DR. MELVIN SABSHIN

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Dr. Melvin Sabshin, a tireless advocate for mental health issues, who passed away on June 4, 2011. I am proud that Dr. Sabshin's family lives in Connecticut and honored to remember a man who spoke out against harmful discrimination, breaking down the stigma of mental health ahead of his time.

As the former director of the American Psychiatric Association, Dr.

Sabshin worked diligently to advance the field of psychiatry by strengthening research efforts and advocating for increased mental health funding.

Dr. Sabshin was born on October 28, 1925, in New York City. Graduating high school at age 14 and college at 17, he was a scholar from childhood. After graduating from the University of Florida, he served briefly in the U.S. Army and then enrolled in medical school and completed his residency at Tulane University in Louisiana. Upon graduation from medical school, he practiced medicine at the Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago and eventually became the head of the University of Illinois' Department of Psychiatry.

At the University of Illinois, he became an active member of the American Psychiatric Association. In 1974 he was appointed medical director of the American Psychiatric Association and served as director until 1997. During his time, he oversaw the publication of new editions of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, which sets standard criteria for classifying mental health conditions.

In fighting discrimination, he worked tirelessly to eliminate homosexuality from the list of psychiatric disorders in the manual, and his work helped to change attitudes toward homosexuality. During his tenure as director, Dr. Sabshin was also a leading voice against the ideological manipulation of psychiatry by communist authorities in the Soviet Union.

Upon his retirement from the American Psychiatric Association, Dr. Sabshin was hired as a clinical professor at the University of Maryland's medical school. He also was an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. He is survived by his wife Marion Bennathan of London, his son Dr. James Sabshin of Woodbridge, CT, and four granddaughters.

Dr. Sabshin has been called "central to the evolution of modern American psychiatry." This characterization could not be more accurate. Dr. Sabshin's death is a great loss to the professional community and especially to all those who have benefited from his many years of great public service. I know my colleagues will join me in honoring the great life of Dr. Melvin Sabshin.●

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI DELTA RESEARCH CENTER

• Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 50th anniversary of the University of Missouri's Delta Research Center. The Portageville, MO, facility was officially dedicated on August 8, 1961, and has since become a beacon for the agriculture industry. I am so proud of the Delta Center's many accomplishments.

Over the course of five decades, the success of the Delta Center was made possible by a special team of experts from the University of Missouri, College of Agriculture, Food and Natural